

## A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE COGNET/CEA MODEL

(Cognitive Enrichment Network Education Model or currently Cognitive Enrichment Advantage)



- Developed by Katherine Greenberg in 1984
- Goal of the model is to teach all learners how to think and learn. Learners who understand how they think and learn are able to develop personal learning strategies that can help them cope with any new learning situation.
- The vision when using the model is to help learners become effective, independent, lifelong learners who are able to adapt to an ever-changing world, to make good decisions about their relationships with the world and to make this world a better place.
- The theories of Feuerstein, Piaget, Vygotsky and others have greatly influenced COGNET/CEA.
- COGNET/CEA promotes the explicit use of a shared vocabulary about 12 Building Blocks of Thinking and 8 Tools of Learning.
- The Building Blocks of Thinking with their focus on cognitive processes foster effective thinking. The Tools of Learning focus on learners' feelings about and commitment and attitude toward learning.

**Building Blocks  
of Thinking,  
to think better**



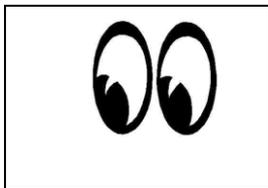
# Approach to Task

These are the Building Blocks for Approaching the Learning Experience. The blocks are:

Systematic Exploration: To search systematically for information needed in the learning experience.



1. Stop, concentrate, focus
2. Clean your brain
3. What do I need to complete the exercise



1. Visualise, make notes
2. Look and read
3. Underline, highlight, re-read



1. Listen
2. Listen to all instructions
3. Use visual clues/notes/drawings

Systematic Planning: To prepare and use an organised approach in the learning experience.

What  
Where



Why  
When

Who

How

This is dependent on the subject and the instructions given.

What must I do? A project/task/exercise/summarise.....

How must I do it? On paper/using pen/highlighter/ruler/paper

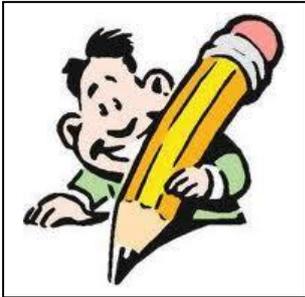
When must it be done?

Did I diarise the date?

When must it be finished?

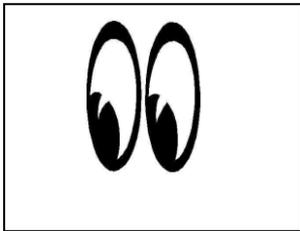
How many days do I have to complete this?

Controlled expression: To communicate thoughts and actions carefully and with controlled expression in the learning experience.



Do or write

1. Be precise
2. Be accurate
3. To the point



Look and read again

1. Did I get all the information?
2. Was I precise and accurate?
3. Are my answers to the point?

Your controlled expression will vary as the tasks vary. The learners might be required to check the instructions given/the questions asked/the information written down, to ensure that they've executed the task correctly.



Careful

1. Check again
2. Correct your mistakes: punctuation, spelling, sentence construction, grammar.

# What can I do as a parent?

## Tips for mediating exploration:

- Encourage your child to read the task/questions out loud to you
- Listen carefully
- What must you do? Tell me in your own words
- Make notes/draw/use pictures/highlight the main ideas, before you start to make sure that you understand each component of this task

## Tips for systematic planning:

- \*Now that you know what to do:
- \*What do you need to execute this task?
- \*Where do you start?
- \*When must you hand it in?

Then make sure you assist your child to keep on track with the specific instructions given, by asking the leading questions as stated above.

## Tips for controlled expression:

- \* Ask your child to read the questions and answers to ensure that their answers are precise, accurate and to the point. (They might have to read it out loud to you at first so you can assist when answers are too long/not factual/ not relevant)
- \*Did you answer the question? Check what was asked?
- \*Now check your work by paying specific attention to:

Grammar

Spelling

Sentence construction

Neatness

